

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method for communication between a first computer and a second computer, each of which is connected to a server computer, the method comprising the steps of:

- under control of a first application at the first computer,
- creating a message, wherein the message comprises zero or more text and zero or more content identifiers; and
- putting the message into a message queue; and
- under control of a second application at the second computer, retrieving the message from the message queue.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein text comprises a string of alphanumeric characters.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein a content identifier comprises an item identifier and a server name.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the message comprises an event notification with zero text and zero content identifiers.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the message comprises text with zero content identifiers.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the message comprises zero text and one or more content identifiers that represent items in a data store connected to the server computer.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the message comprises an object.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the message is put into the message queue via a method of a class.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the message is retrieved from the message queue via a

2 method of a class.

1 10. An apparatus for communication between computers, comprising:  
2 a first computer connected to a server computer;  
3 a second computer connected to the first computer and to the server computer; and  
4 one or more computer programs, performed by the first and second computers, for:  
5 under control of a first application at the first computer,  
6 creating a message, wherein the message comprises zero or more text and zero  
7 or more content identifiers; and  
8 putting the message into a message queue; and  
9 under control of a second application at the second computer, retrieving the message from  
10 the message queue.

0 11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein text comprises a string of alphanumeric characters.

0 12. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein a content identifier comprises an item identifier and  
1 a server name.

0 13. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the message comprises an event notification with zero  
1 text and zero content identifiers.

0 14. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the message comprises text with zero content  
1 identifiers.

0 15. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the message comprises zero text and one or more  
1 content identifiers that represent items in a data store connected to the server computer.

0 16. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the message comprises an object.

0 17. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the message is put into the message queue via a

2 method of a class

1 18. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the message is retrieved from the message queue via  
2 a method of a class.

1 19. An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer  
2 and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps for  
3 communication between a first computer and a second computer, each of which is connected to a server  
4 computer, comprising:

5 under control of a first application at the first computer,

6 creating a message, wherein the message comprises zero or more text and zero or more  
7 content identifiers; and

8 putting the message into a message queue; and

9 under control of a second application at the second computer, retrieving the message from the  
10 message queue.

1 20. The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein text comprises a string of alphanumeric  
2 characters.

1 21. The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein a content identifier comprises an item  
2 identifier and a server name.

1 22. The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein the message comprises an event  
2 notification with zero text and zero content identifiers.

1 23. The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein the message comprises text with zero  
2 content identifiers.

1 24. The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein the message comprises zero text and one  
2 or more content identifiers that represent items in a data store connected to the server computer.

1           25. The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein the message comprises an object.

1           26. The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein the message is put into the message  
2       queue via a method of a class.

1           27. The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein the message is retrieved from the  
2       message queue via a method of a class.

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